

# WALLER CREEK TUNNEL PROJECT



Waller Creek flooding



Tunnel example



Tunnel shaft from below



Tunnel shaft from above



Tunnel outlet

SUMMER 2012

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE



## CITY CELEBRATES COMPLETION OF WALLER CREEK BOATHOUSE

On May 3, the City hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony marking the successful completion of the Waller Creek Boathouse. The new boathouse was constructed as mitigation for using parkland to build the Waller Creek tunnel outlet lagoon. The 10,800 ft., two-story building features a deck accessible to the public, public restrooms, office space, boat storage, a concession area, and locker rooms.

The building is owned by the Parks and Recreation Department. The Austin Rowing Club (ARC) will

operate the facility and will encourage multi-use public access. Certain sections of the building, including the locker rooms and boat storage areas are only accessible to ARC members, but the observation deck, concession area and restrooms are open to the public. In the future, the ARC plans to roll out community amenities such as kayak rentals, reduced cost rowing lessons, and a snack bar. "This project is a significant milestone in the overall Waller Creek Tunnel Program...in addition to clearing the way for construction of the tunnel outlet, the new boathouse provides a fantastic new way for the community to experience the beauty of Lady Bird Lake," says Mayor Lee Leffingwell.

## TUNNELING CONTINUES IN TWO DIRECTIONS

While everything appears quiet on the surface at 4th Street and IH35, work crews are hard at work 70 feet below ground creating the main tunnel segment. The main segment will span from Waterloo Park to the outlet lagoon on the shores of Lady Bird Lake. To date, the contractor has tunneled laterally more than a 1,000 ft. northward and 300 ft. southward. On average, the tunneling crew progresses 14 feet per day.



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## TUNNEL OUTLET CONSTRUCTION TO BEGIN THIS SUMMER

The outlet lagoon is designed to safely discharge flood waters that are captured upstream into Lady Bird Lake. The outlet project will consist of an approximately 150-ft diameter, 50 ft. deep lagoon adjacent to the mouth of Waller Creek. In July, the contractor will begin preparing the site for construction.

The lagoon will be built by installing a coffer dam in Lady Bird Lake that will allow water to be pumped out, creating a dry work location. The outlet lagoon will then be built and the coffer dam removed, allowing water to enter the lagoon. When finished, it will look like a natural wetland cove fringed by native vegetation. In addition to the lagoon, the project will build a maintenance access road. Outlet construction will take approximately two years to complete and will be followed by a site restoration project that includes new landscaping, paths and lighting.



## INLET CONSTRUCTION WELL UNDER WAY

Waterloo Park is currently a hive of activity as work crews perform site utility and excavation work. The project includes a 20,000 sq. ft. maintenance and debris handling building, wet pond and creek channel improvements. The improved creek channel and new pond will capture and direct flood waters to the debris handling facility for trash screening and passage into the tunnel.

The inlet project in Waterloo Park, and all other tunnel subprojects, are scheduled to be complete by the end of 2014.



FOR MORE  
INFORMATION,  
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